

Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A personal audio system comprising:
 - a remotely controllable device,
 - a first controller for remotely controlling the device by sending a first control signal to the device,
 - a second controller for remotely controlling the device by sending a second control signal to the device, wherein:
 - each of the first controller and the second controller includes an outer surface with a touch-sensitive area, and is configured to:
 - be substantially worn in or by a human ear,
 - detect a touching of the touch-sensitive area, and
 - send the corresponding control signal to control one or more functions of the personal audio system based on the touching; and

at least one of the one or more functions being controlled by the first controller differs from one or more functions being controlled by the second controller.

2. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein each controller is arranged to fit substantially in a human ear concha, such that the touch-sensitive area is accessible for touching when the controller is fitted substantially in the concha.

3. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the controllers is arranged to detect a predefined temporal pattern in the touching of the touch-sensitive area, and to send the corresponding control signal in response to detecting the temporal pattern.

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of at least one of the controllers includes a second touch-sensitive area, such that the second touch-sensitive area is touched substantially by the ear when the controller is substantially worn in or by a human ear, the controller being arranged to send the corresponding control signal only if the second touch-sensitive area is touched.

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the outer surface of at least one controller includes a second touch-sensitive area, and is arranged to send a second control signal to the device if the second touch-sensitive area is touched.

6-8 (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A method for remote control of a personal audio device, the method comprising:

[[-]] wearing a pair of controllers substantially in or by a pair of human ears;

[[-]] detecting a touching of a touch-sensitive area of each of the controllers;

and

[[-]] sending a control signal to the device in response to detecting the touching of each touch-sensitive area to control one or more functions of the personal audio system;

wherein at least one of the one or more functions being controlled by a first controller of the pair of controllers differs from one or more functions being controlled by a second controller of the pair of controllers.

10. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, including a touch-detecting device coupled to an other touch-sensitive area of at least one of the controllers, wherein the touch-detecting device measures internal resistance of a part of the human body that touches the other touch-sensitive area.

11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the touch-detecting devices is configured to perform a temporal pattern analysis that converts an output signal of the touch-detecting device into an indication of one or more defined temporal patterns of the output signal.

12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 10, wherein each controller includes a disc that includes a transducer and a protruding part having the touch-sensitive area, wherein the disc fits in a concha of an ear.

13. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the touch-sensitive area of at least one of the controllers detects a pressure with which the touch-sensitive area is touched.

14. (Previously presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the second touch-sensitive area is positioned between the tragus and anti-tragus of the ear during use.

15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A pair of earbuds coupled to a corresponding pair of channels of an audio device, each earbud comprising:

 a transducer that is configured to provide sound from the corresponding channel of the audio device, and

 a sensor that is configured to detect a touch of the earbud, and to provide an indication of the touch to the audio device, to facilitate control of the audio device based on the indications from the pair of earbuds;

wherein at least one function being controlled by the indication of the touch from a first earbud of the pair of earbuds differs from each function being controlled by the indication of touch from a second earbud of the pair of earbuds.

17. (Previously presented) The pair of earbuds of claim 16, wherein at least one earbud includes an other sensor that is configured to detect the earbud being placed in an ear.

18. (Previously presented) The pair of earbuds of claim 17, wherein the at least one earbud is configured to provide the indication of the touch only if the other sensor detects the earbud being placed in the ear.

19. (Previously presented) The pair of earbuds of claim 17, wherein the at least one earbud is configured to provide an other indication to the audio device if the other sensor detects the earbud being placed in the ear.

20. (Currently amended) A device comprising:

a source of audio content material,

an audio amplifier that is configured to provide a pair of audio output signals to a corresponding pair of earbuds, and

a control element that is configured to receive indications of touchings of each earbud of the pair of earbuds, and to control the device based on these indications;

wherein at least one function being controlled by the indications of touchings from a first earbud of the pair of earbuds differs from each function being controlled by the indications of touchings from a second earbud of the pair of earbuds.

21. (Previously presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the pair of earbuds includes a first earbud and a second earbud, and the control element is configured to distinguish the indications of the touching of each earbud, and to control the device differently based on whether the first earbud or second earbud provides the indication of the touching.

22. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21, wherein the indication of touching of the first earbud causes a volume of the output signals to increase, and the indication of touching of the second earbud causes the volume to decrease.

23. (Previously presented) The device of claim 21, wherein the audio content is arranged for rendering in a sequence of audio segments, and the indication of touching of the first earbud causes a selection of a prior audio segment in the sequence for rendering, and the indication of touching of the second earbud causes a selection of a subsequent audio segment.

24. (Previously presented) The device of claim 20, wherein the control element is configured to receive an other indication of at least one earbud of the pair of earbuds being placed in an ear, and to enable the audio amplifier based on this other indication.